



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

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Annual Patuxent Quilt Show Gives Women Inmates A Chance to Give Back to Society

25 Quilts to be Donated Wednesday, November 7

TOWSON, MD (November 5, 2007)---Inmates often say they want to pay society back, at least in some small way, for the crimes they have committed. This ***Wednesday, November 7 at 1 p.m.***, women inmates at the renowned Patuxent Institution in Jessup will do just that, when they donate handmade quilts and baby items at the eighth annual Patuxent Institution Quilt Show.

Patuxent, a maximum-security prison operating on a highly-structured graded tier system, gives its 812 inmates a chance to participate in a wide variety of educational, behavioral modification, and treatment programs. The facility's population includes approximately 80 women.

Volunteer quilters come in regularly to teach the women inmates the fine art of quilting and crocheting. Materials are all donated; the program costs state taxpayers nothing. Most of the inmates have no prior experience; yet, show up for the Quilt Show and you will see spectacular, large, intricate inmate-made quilts. The inmates also have crocheted baby items.

The quilts and baby items will be donated to a charity: This year, the recipient will be Hyattsville's St. Ann's Infant and Maternity Home, whose director will be present on Wednesday to accept the gifts and thank the staff and inmates.

Sixteen inmates participated in the program, some for an entire year. Patuxent is very grateful to the volunteer quilters and staff who have donated their time to make the annual show such a huge success.

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***Patuxent Institution is located on Md. Route 175 less than one mile east of
U.S. 1 and I-95 in Jessup.***